

## BOWEN READY TO GO AHEAD.

BUT THE POWERS SEEM INCLINED TO GO SLOW.

Probably Nothing Will Be Done Till Baron Speck von Sternberg Arrives—Then Every Step Will Have to Be Approved at Home Before It's Sanctioned.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20.—With the arrival here this afternoon of Herbert W. Bowen, United States Minister to Venezuela, to whom plenipotentiary powers have been given by President Castro to undertake an adjustment of the difficulties of that nation with Germany, Great Britain and Italy, the negotiations for a settlement are already under way.

Mr. Bowen, within an hour or two after reaching town, called at the State Department, where he had a brief interview with acting Secretary Hill, and then visited the British and Italian Ambassadors and Count Quadt, the German Charge d'Affaires.

The first object of the Venezuelan envoy will be to secure an agreement with the allied Powers for raising their blockade of Venezuelan ports. This is regarded as a necessary measure, as a continuance of coercive measures of this character will, it is held, make Venezuela more than ever unfitted to comply with the demands of the allies.

It is not probable, however, that this will be accomplished as quickly as Mr. Bowen desires. Many difficulties must be overcome before Germany, Great Britain and Italy will consent to modify the course they have adopted of bringing President Castro to terms.

A feeling of disappointment prevails in Government circles over the attitude of the allies as explained by their diplomatic representatives in Washington. Each of the European countries desires to treat separately with Mr. Bowen, the ground for this policy being that the claims of each European Government are entirely distinct from those of the others.

Mr. Bowen will endeavor to bring about a conference with the representatives here of the three Powers which shall determine the principles upon which the peace negotiations are to be considered. One of these preliminary terms will be, it is hoped, a provision for raising the blockade. After that the negotiations will probably be considered separately by Mr. Bowen with each of the several delegates.

The allies are unwilling to enter upon a preparation of a peace arrangement until Venezuela acknowledges certain contentions which they will place before Mr. Bowen. These are mainly that claims of subjects of England, Germany and Italy be recognized in principle, and the recognition of the right of the European allies to secure redress for their subjects.

It is understood that Mr. Bowen is willing to agree to these provisions on condition that the blockade will be raised and all other coercive measures abandoned pending the conclusion of the protocol or treaty which Venezuela will obligate herself to pay the amounts fixed by Mr. Bowen and the Washington representatives of the Powers.

There is an understanding in official circles that the allies will insist upon some guarantee that Venezuela will pay the claims when they fall due. How this is to be accomplished, if at all, is not known here.

One thing is certain in this connection, and that is that the United States Government will not, directly or indirectly, furnish the guarantee or security which the allies in any way for the observance of good faith on Venezuela's part.

Although Secretary Bowen was not feeling well, he received Mr. Hill at his residence this afternoon and talked over with him the objects of the special mission which he has brought him.

Hay, however, feels that he has no right to give any instructions to Mr. Bowen, who is here as the representative of Venezuela, and not of the United States.

The opinion among those concerned regarding Venezuela's attitude is that the agreement to hold a peace conference will not be recognized by that Government until after the arrival in Washington of Baron Speck von Sternberg. He will probably be there by the end of the month.

With the arrival of Mr. Bowen here all doubt was removed as to the nature of the authority, which includes the right to sign any agreement that may be reached without waiting permission to do so from President Castro.

On the other hand, the three European Governments, from present indications, will require that the agreement be conducted ad referendum—that is, each European negotiator must notify his Government of every important step taken and wait its approval before formally asserting it.

**Around the World to Be Lost in New York.**

Roland King of 23 West Eighth street, who is a mate on a coasting vessel, reported to the police yesterday that his wife Alice, who has been around the world with him safely several times, had apparently got lost in New York City.

He put her on the street at the corner of Broadway car at the Post Office Saturday and has heard nothing of her since. Mrs. King is 27 years old.

**Indians Discussed at the Quill Club.**

The Quill Club gave its annual dinner to the ladies at the Hotel Savoy, last night. "Indians" was the subject discussed after the dinner by United States Civil Service Commissioner William Dudley Foulke, Congressman-elect Frederick Landis of Indiana and others.

**Grave Criticism of Lord Roberts.**

From the Saturday Review.

Sir: Some weeks ago I read with amusement in your columns the prevailing championship of Lord Roberts and praise of his has done (and not done) for the army since he commenced his stewardship by a gentleman in Tasmania who apparently had exceptional facilities for knowing all about the administration of the War Office. What most of the officers of our army of all ranks think of the present regime is tolerably well known, but perhaps better left unexpressed. Chance, however, has enabled me to hear the views of the ladies who are now about to enter Mr. M. service, and it seems to me that there is a good deal of practical common sense in their criticism.

A lady of all men in the world, Mrs. Roberts is the last to make such an amazingly indiscreet speech to a number of intelligent ladies who can at least read and know how to look up the "Headquarters Staff in South Africa" in the army lists of 1900.

There is only one plain soldier.

Dec. 31.

## LIVE TOPICS ABOUT TOWN.

M. le Comte Robert de Montequilou-Fenouillet was in a state of mind on Sunday. His rooms at the hotel which he honors with his patronage had been decorated with flowers—orchids, violets and roses—but there were no specimens of the flower that the Count has called his own. This is a blue hydrangea. The Count's outburst of his career as a poet, or whatever he is, he selected that bloom as his symbol and to one of his volumes of verse he gave the name of the flower as its title.

Since then the world in which the Count achieved his fame has known that he and the blue hydrangeas were to all intents and purposes one and the same. But the Count's press agent hadn't told the Count's American admirers how necessary to his happiness blue hydrangeas were, so none of them had been provided.

It was the residence of the Count's friends from one end of the avenue to the other searched by the Count's faithful secretary. None of the flowers was to be found. The Count then under the impression, but he bore himself with wonderful courage under the circumstances. He showed that he was truly a descendant of the great warriors, by recovering himself entirely after receiving a promise that the hydrangeas should be on hand this morning.

Maurice Grau went to the opera on Saturday night for the first time since he was taken ill. After another week he expects to be in his seat as usual when the curtain rises on every performance. During Mr. Grau's illness his representative at the Metropolitan has become as well known to the patrons of the opera by sight as Mr. Grau himself. Mr. Latham acquired his knowledge of opera under Sir Augustus D'Oyly Carte, before he had been in the opera house, and he has been an actor, manager and a producer of plays. Here he travelled through the country with Sarah Bernhardt. Since his impresario's illness he has had entire charge of the opera house. With all his varied experience in this country and England, he has an interesting fund of anecdote and reminiscence, often relating to the vicissitudes of the profession in earlier days. But looking back over a career of more than thirty years of active service in the profession, Mr. Latham says he can recall only one thing to tell us of the opera company of Philadelphia twice a week.

The bar receipts of the principal hotels on Fifth avenue must have been materially increased on Sunday. Again the sandwich was dispensed at a profit of no less than two or three hundred percent, and without it no drinks were to be had. In one hotel the two necessary facts were that the waiter with two drinks cost 20 cents. When the waiters were acquainted with the persons who were ordering, only one was considered necessary. But in more cases frequent reports of the waiter's prevalence at most of the large hotels and the increase in their bar receipts must have reconciled the proprietors to any strictness of the excise law.

New Yorkers familiar with hotel life are not surprised to hear of the robberies that take place in these establishments. It is rather a matter of surprise to them that these are not more frequently reported.

The arrangements that prevail in most of the city hotels seem to the average observer to put a premium on robbery. Any man of fairly decent appearance may get access to almost any part of a New York hotel. Observation of the various visitors to the large city hotels is not without interest. If all the guests were to be occupied with their own affairs, they might go to the office of a hotel to the top floor. Of course, the hotel is not a place where the guests are likely to be stopped. But in the average hotel—especially the larger hotels—the intruder is not likely to be interrupted by the hotel staff outside the private apartments of the guests.

Mme. Adeline Patti's desire to come back to the United States has finally led her to apply to a vaudeville agent hitherto occupied with the affairs of the variety theatres, to arrange a tour for her. Mme. Patti is very wealthy. Alfred Rothschild in Paris enabled her to earn many thousands through speculation, just as he helped Christine Nilsson. Both of these famous women earned large sums in their profession. But their success was made possible by the instrumentality of Mr. Rothschild, who is never so happy as when he is helping prima donnas to increase their savings. Mme. Patti has always been extremely proud and is not content with the luxury of a young husband and has made it necessary for her to give a minute's thought to the subject of money. If she does not to the United States, she will not be with a guarantee of a large sum for every appearance. In all probability she will be her own impresario and her own manager, or, at least, will have results from the tour.

"Going on" is the habit of the day—or rather of the evening—as the prevalent phrase seems to be. It means, in the parlance of the vaudeville agent, "going on" means that one's invitations of the evening are not exhausted by one's entertainment. Others, who are not content with a person after a dinner or a dance, whether they're "going on" or not, are prepared for an affirmative answer.

Aloys Burgstaller, who has come to this country for a brief season at the Metropolitan, will be an interesting apparition to the German theatre-goers. He is a young man of about 25, of a pleasant and genial appearance, by which the average Wagner tenor is developed. He began by singing Siegfried, one of the heaviest roles, and has since then been singing the lighter Wagnerian operas. His entire repertoire is practically confined to three roles, although he has also appeared in one or two important parts in the House of the Opera in Bayreuth learning one role. And he has no idea of ever attempting to sing the heavier Wagnerian roles. He intends to remain in Wagner tenor and nothing else. Specialists are, of course, of the order of the day, but such a strict specialization in the matter of Wagner is never heard of before. Herr Burgstaller came on the scene.

Although Mr. Cope Whitehouse, whose name appeared recently at the bottom of a letter on religion, is better known in the United States for other branches of learning in Europe for Bible studies. He was a member of the Council of the Society of Biblical Archaeology in London, lectured in Oxford and Cambridge on the forty-ninth chapter of Genesis, wrote many articles for the leading religious reviews on the identity of the Fayum and land of Goshen, and his treatise on the Semitic traditions of the River of Joseph was translated into Arabic under the direction of Artin Pasha, Minister of Public Instruction, and published in Cairo.

The Behrmers have published something which has long been needed in this of the world, namely, a correct copy of Gounod's "Faust." They had some time ago issued one with Italian and English text and containing all that is usually given in Italian performances of the opera, but which was not satisfactory to the new vocal score is complete. It contains the Walpurgis night scene, which is invariably omitted from performances here, and the little scene for Marguerite and Siebel in the third act, which is also usually cut out.

A French text is given, and even the Parisian version of "Dieu Pommeste" is found in this edition. There is an excellent introductory essay by Henry Edward Krehbiel, a gentleman who by the way, can't even read the remarkable feat of repeating the entire opera from memory. Yet some people say he is a hide-bound Wagnerite.

**Executive Broom-Gutline.**

Cures a Cold in One Day.

Cures Grip in Two Days—Ad.

## TRUST-BUSTERS IN A PUNK.

NO "HALF A JOB" FOR ROOSEVELT, HE SAYS.

President Says Knox, Aldrich and Spooner—Littlefield Disagreed, Nobody Else—and All the Trust-Busters Are at the Well to Know What to Do.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20.—The trust-busters of the House of Representatives have almost abandoned hope of passing a bill that will meet the approval of the President and the Attorney-General, and they now say they may not be able to complete their work before the end of the week.

Political ambition was the beginning of Col. Fowler's financial undoing. When the Erie Railroad was completed, in 1881, Col. Fowler, then a resident in Sussex county, purchased large tracts of property at the then village of Port Jervis, and became a citizen of that place. He built a splendid house there, put up the biggest and most costly hotel between New York and Elmira and established a newspaper.

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## HIS \$200,000 EDUCATION.

One Chapter in the History of a Rich Zinc Mine in New Jersey.

DOVER, N. J., Jan. 20.—The Board of Freeholders of Sussex county, having raised the valuation of the New Jersey Zinc Company's property at Franklin Furnace from \$1,115,000 to \$5,000,000, the company has appealed to the courts to have the assessment set aside. The company's book-keeper will be the chief element in the litigation.

The Buckwheel mine has an odd history. When Col. Sam Fowler died, toward the close of the Civil War, he left a great deal of property in Sussex county and in Orange county, N. Y., but it was loaded with incumbrances and involved in litigation.

Political ambition was the beginning of Col. Fowler's financial undoing. When the Erie Railroad was completed, in 1881, Col. Fowler, then a resident in Sussex county, purchased large tracts of property at the then village of Port Jervis, and became a citizen of that place. He built a splendid house there, put up the biggest and most costly hotel between New York and Elmira and established a newspaper.

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## BANK OFFICERS PLEAD GUILTY.

KIMBALL AND ROSE LEAVE THEMSELVES TO COURT'S MERCY.

Over-certification, Their Counsel Pleads, Is Customary With National Banks, in Spite of the Law—Judge Thomas Will Announce the Penalty on Tuesday.

William H. Kimball, former president of the Seventh National Bank and before that a National Bank Examiner, and Gamaliel Rose, paying teller of the bank, pleaded guilty yesterday in the United States Court of having over-certified checks for Marquand & Co. in 1901, thereby bringing their trial, which began Monday, to an unexpected end.

After a protracted conference between the defendants and their lawyers just after the jury took their seats, Edward A. Lauterbach, attorney for Mr. Kimball, addressed the court. He recognized, he said, that the Government had produced strong evidence of the technical offense of over-certification charged.